



Attorney General Jon Bruning

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# News Release

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## **AG Bruning and Nebraska Farm Bureau Warn of Business Targeting Nebraska Farmers**

LINCOLN - Attorney General Jon Bruning today partnered with the Nebraska Farm Bureau to alert farmers of a business operation targeting the area. Quality Steel Buildings, also doing business as Pioneer Building Systems, has been involved in lawsuits in North Dakota and Minnesota. The Public Protection Division of the Nebraska Attorney General's Office has received complaints from Nebraska business owners in regard to Quality Steel Buildings, one of which allegedly paid \$15,000 for a building that was promised, but never received.

"Nebraska farmers value honesty and straightforwardness," said Bruning. "It's also important to be cautious when making large-dollar purchases. Protect yourself by doing business with established companies with trusted references."

In 2008, the North Dakota Attorney General's office filed suit against Quality Steel Buildings owner Dennis Burton and entered into a consent judgment that required he pay consumers more than \$300,000. According to the consent decree, Burton made false, deceptive and misleading representations and engaged in deceptive practices.

"Farmers like to do business with a hand shake," said Keith Olsen, President of Nebraska Farm Bureau and farmer in Grant, Nebraska. "This is a reminder to farmers that they need to know with whom they're doing business and to make sure the company or individual is reputable."

In 2009, the Minnesota Attorney General filed a similar lawsuit against Burton individually and doing business as Pioneer Building Systems and Quality Steel Buildings, Inc. The lawsuit alleged that Burton charged farmers and small businesses more than \$260,000 for the sale of steel farm and storage buildings that he failed to deliver. In March, Burton was permanently enjoined from doing business in Minnesota.

For additional information on this and other scams, contact the Consumer Protection Division at 1-800-727-6432 or visit the website at [www.ago.ne.gov](http://www.ago.ne.gov).